



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



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RACE 1:

7 GUNMAN is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after prompting the pace and weakening to finish 3rd vs \$35,000 maidens going a mile. Trainer Mike Maker, who claimed the War Front gelding 2 starts back, has Edgard Zayas atop the previous sprint winner on the turf, albeit at 6 furlongs. **1 SOUPER BOOM** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks after shaking off trouble at the start (hit gate) to finish 4th vs state-bred special weight sprinters in his first-ever outing on the local grass.

4 NACHO SUPREME is another dropping to the \$25,000 level tracking swift fractions and finishing 5th behind Souper Boom last out. Trainer Kathy Ritvo has Edwin Gonzalez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 7-1-4

RACE 2:

4 LADY FIORELLA, 3 for 4 'in the money' at a mile, stretches out, and steps up, after dueling through the stretch and holding sway to defeat \$6,250 '3-lifetime' claimers going 6 ½ furlongs. Antonio Sano has Leonel Reyes in the saddle.

2 ETANA is hoping to find a little more firepower for the stretch run after rallying late to finish 2nd at this level and distance. Trainer Scott Acker has Paco penciled in for the return riding assignment.

6 LOVE DADDY is dropping to the \$16,000 level on the dirt after facing tougher on the turf – going both long and short – with little success. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has a hefty 31% record with the grass to dirt move.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-6

RACE 3:

3 SHIKAKA, who broke her maiden at this distance at GP West, is stretching out after rallying to hit the board in 2 of 3 recent turf sprints vs \$16-\$20,000 '2-lifetime' claimers. The drop to the \$12,500 level looks like a good move.

1 WHAT'S THE MOVE, now in the Michelle Nihei barn, the daughter of Summer Front drops after following her \$20,000 maiden victory going a mile with a poor showing – as the favorite – vs \$20,000 claimers going a mile and a sixteenth while in the Danny Gargan barn. **7 SISTER IS DEVIL** is stepping up to face winners after using her speed to defeat \$16,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Liz Dobles has Leonel Reyes handling the turnback to 7 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-7

RACE 4:

3 BETTABE SWIFT is making her first start since her promising \$25,000 sprint debut during January when she broke from a tough outside post and rallied wide to come within a head of exiting of the maiden ranks at first asking. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell, 21% with this type of layoff, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

4 DRIVING WIND is dropping to the \$35,000 level after the pair of ambitious outings since finishing 3rd vs \$50,000 maidens on New Year's Day. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Edgard Zayas handling the class relief. **1 MUDSLIDE WICKED** departs from the rail with the speed needed to use the inside draw to her advantage. Trainer Maria Mejia has Angel Arroyo trying to improve on the trio of 2nd-place finishes.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-1

RACE 5:

7 SIDARTH was game in defeat when dropping to this level and distance and surrendering a late lead to finish 2nd – beaten a half-length. It's Saffie and Edgard! **6 GREYZER** moves to the Aubrey Maragh barn via the claim and wheels back, after tracking the pace and finishing 3rd behind Sidarth last out. The new connections make it a family affair with Romero Maragh in the saddle.



4 CONVERTER is stretching out looking to convert her recent open-length maiden victory going 6 ½ furlongs into a score vs winners going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Jena Antonucci is 4 for 14 (29%) with horses stretching out in distance.

SELECTIONS: 7-6-4

RACE 6:

4 LONG BEACH KID is dropping to the \$20,000 level after facing tougher on the turf with some success. The gelded son of Uncaptured, who finished a well-meant 3rd vs \$35,000 maidens 2 starts back, and was a chase the pace 5th vs \$35,000 claimers last out, should be able to flaunt his tactical speed at this level. Kathleen O'Connell has Miguel Vazquez in the saddle.

7 TELLINGTON is cutting back to a mile after the eye-pleasing debut victory in which he rallied from the parking lot to defeat \$25,000 maidens – at 34-1 - going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer David Fawkes has Emisael Jaramillo going for 2 in a row.

9 HACHACHA, another from Kathleen O'Connell, turns back to a mile after finishing a track-the-pace 3rd vs similar quality going a mile and a sixteenth: Jose Morelos rides.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-9

RACE 7:

1 REAL TALK is stretching out to 7 furlongs, and hoping for a dry track, after following his state-bred allowance victory with a stalk-the-action 4th behind Lauda Speed going 6 furlongs in the sloppy Hutcheson Stakes. Trainer Carlos David has Paco Lopez handling the inside draw.

3 LAUDA SPEED, a previous winner at the distance, stretches out after making a middle move and finishing 4th in the \$75,000 Hutcheson Stakes. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Emisael Jaramillo returning on the most seasoned runner in the field. **4 BOCA BOY** is turning back to 7 furlongs with that dangerous commodity on his side – Speed! The gelding turns back after setting the table and weakening late in the both the G2 Tampa Derby, and the G3 Sam F Davis – both contested at 8 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 1-3-4

RACE 8:

4 LASHARA (GB) should have the screws tightened after returning from the layoff to stalk the pace and finish 6th vs a solid group of \$62,500 optional claimers going this mile distance. Trainer Mark Casse has Emisael Jaramillo named on the daughter of American Pharoah.

5 KELSEY'S CROSS, who should sit in the garden spot off the pace, drops after facing stakes competition in 12 consecutive races dating back 2019. Trainer Patrick Biancone has Chantal Sutherland atop the daughter of Anthony's Cross.

7 HOTSY TOTSY (IRE) is stepping up the competition after returning from the almost 8-month layoff to defeat \$25,000 optional claimers at the distance. Trainer Christophe Clement has Joe Bravo in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-7

RACE 9:

5 SARA MIA is stepping up, and stretching out, in the first race since using her speed to defeat \$16,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth here during February. Trainer Juan Avila has Marcos Meneses returning on this 'upset the appletart' speed play. **7 LULLULA** is dropping to the \$35,000 level after getting boxed in through the stretch when finishing 4th vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers in the first race after the claim by trainer Mike Maker: Edgard Zayas rides.

9 KATE'S KINGDOM is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after following her \$16,000 maiden victory with a 2nd-place finish in front of Lullula last out. Trainer Armando De La Cerda has Miguel Vazquez handling the turnback.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-9

BEST BET: RACE 7 – 1 REAL TALK

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 5 SARA MIA

